



# NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

**TODD P. GRAVES**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **KC MAN PLEADS GUILTY TO CRACK COCAINE, ILLEGAL FIREARM**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City, Mo., man pleaded guilty in federal court today to possessing with intent to distribute crack cocaine and illegally possessing a firearm.

**Damon L. Johnson**, 21, of Kansas City, pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Ortrie D. Smith this morning to charges contained in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on June 23, 2005, in Kansas City.

By pleading guilty, **Johnson** admitted that he possessed with intent to distribute crack cocaine on June 1, 2005, in Jackson County, Mo. **Johnson** also admitted that he was in possession of a firearm at the time he possessed with intent to distribute crack cocaine on June 1, 2005. He admitted that he was in possession of a Ruger Mini-14 rifle. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for a person to possess a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime.

Under federal statutes, Graves explained, **Johnson** may be subject to a sentence of up to 20 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$250,000. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the U.S. Probation Office.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Charles E. Ambrose. The case was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the United States Marshal's Service.

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This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

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